

# PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION SHEET

## ALGORITHM FOR RECOMMENDING TESTING FOR SARS CORONAVIRUS— POST-EVENT PHASE

*(SARS identified somewhere in the world)*

**Person over 18 years hospitalized with  
chest x-ray confirmed pneumonia:**

Ask patient:

1. Have you traveled to an area currently experiencing SARS in the 10 days prior to onset of symptoms?
2. Do you have contacts who became ill within 10 days of travel outside the US? Where did they travel?
3. Are you a healthcare worker with direct patient care?
4. Do you have any close contacts who currently/recently had pneumonia without a known etiology?

OR

**Fever ( $>100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) or  
Respiratory Symptoms or  
Radiographic evidence of pneumonia  
or ARDS in a:**

1. Person with travel within 10 day of onset to area currently experiencing SARS
- OR
2. Contact within 10 days of onset with a person known or suspected to have SARS

If patient answers “yes” to at least one of the questions and an alternative diagnosis is not ruled out in 72 hours and upon MDPH approval, submit specimens to MDPH State Laboratory Institute for SARS testing. Call (617) 983-6800 to report the case prior to submitting the specimen.

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